

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6589

BILL NUMBER: SB 225

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 14, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Madison County Courts.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Lanane

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill has the following provisions:

- A. It abolishes the Madison County Court on January 1, 2007.
- B. It increases the number of judges serving on the Madison Superior Court from three judges to five judges on January 1, 2007.
- C. It makes the two Madison County Court judges serving on December 31, 2006, the fourth and fifth judges of the Madison Superior Court.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Commission on Courts.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2006; January 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: See *Explanation of Local Expenditures*.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill would allow the courts in Madison County to better distribute workload between these two courts and the other three superior courts in Madison County. The cost of the two types of courts is the same.

Background Information: Under IC 33-30-4, county courts are limited to hearing:

- civil, tort, and landlord and tenant cases where the amount in controversy is less than \$10,000.
- Class D felonies, misdemeanors, and infractions.

- local ordinance violations and traffic violations.

County courts are excluded from hearing cases involving:

- injunctive relief or involving partition of real estate.
- declaring or enforcing any lien.
- paternity, juvenile, or probate issues.
- an appointment of a receiver.
- the dissolution of marriage.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Supreme Court, Division of State Court Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Madison County Courts.

Information Sources: IC 33-30-4

Fiscal Analyst: Mark Goodpaster, 317-232-9852.